



## OFFICE OF PUBLIC SERVICES: ANIMAL CONTROL

### ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

#### Mission Statement

To improve animal and human well-being through education, prevention, and enforcement programs and humane animal care and control services for the citizens and animals of Leon County.

#### Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights

##### Quality of Life

- Provided essential public safety services through animal bite investigations, aggressive animal intervention, educational programs and through enforcement of the Animal Ordinance.
- Provided community outreach and neighborhood sweeps in order to put residents in touch with local animal organizations to assist with animal related needs.
- Actively participated on Tallahassee-Leon Animal Service Center Advisory Committee. Continued to implement strategies that allow Animal Control Officers to return animals to their owners, eliminating the need to take animals to the shelter.

#### Contact Us

(850) 606-5400  
[www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal](http://www.LeonCountyFL.gov/Animal)

### PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

## PROTECTING LEON COUNTY'S ANIMALS & CITIZENS

- In order to continuously provide safety and well-being of both citizens and domestic animals, Animal Control staff has:
  - » Provided Bite Prevention Classes to approximately 400 1st and 4th grade students throughout the local school district.
  - » Educated residents about responsible pet care, animal safety, bite prevention and related matters by participating in outreach events such as public safety fairs, "Howl at the Moon," and community pet adoption events.
  - » Educated pet owners about requirements of the Leon County Animal Ordinance and provided loaner dog houses so owners did not give up their pet for the lack of proper care and shelter.
  - » Provided identification tags and collars to ensure lost pets were returned home.
  - » Conducted proactive door-to-door neighborhood sweeps with community partners in high volume service call areas. The main focus of the operation being outreach, education and resource provision.
  - » Facilitated the Capital Area Animal Network, providing for an open forum format that brings together various animal welfare groups in the capital region.
  - » Animal Control staff distributed low-cost spay and neuter vouchers provided by community stakeholders in an effort to impact animal overpopulation.
  - » Hosted two Pet-ucation events that connected over 100 pet owners with community resources from over 10 local animal organizations to promote responsible pet ownership.



*Leon County Animal Control Team*

- Animal control staff is committed to serving the community and protecting animals and citizens. During the year, staff:
  - » Fielded over 8,200 phone calls resulting in over 4,900 service requests and over 6,000 Animal Control Officer activities.
  - » Responded to over 220 service requests for inhumane care resulting in the issuance of 12 citations and the referral of 2 cases to the Leon County Sheriff's Office for pursuit of criminal charges.
  - » Investigated over 97 dangerous or aggressive animal complaints.
  - » Handled over 400 animal bite exposure cases for the state mandated Animal Rabies Program.